Improvement in Relations between India and US

7692. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the fall out for India from the Hon'ble Prime Minister's visit to USA;

(b) whether it is a fact that the US is bringing pressures not to deploy Agni and Prithvi in defence weaponary inspite of the rebuff given by the Prime Minister during his visit to USA;

(c) what is the significance of pro-Pak Congressman Dan Burton's defeat in the House on his anti-India motion on appropriation Bill;

(d) whether it is a fact that Pakistan President could not meet President Clinton during his recent visit to USA;

(e) whether it is a fact that emerging high potential of Indian market and growing economy has propelled US to have a second look at their relationship with India; and

(f) whether this would lead to their cancellation of F-16 bombers supply order to Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) The objective of Prime Minister's visit to the US was to generate goodwill and have a free and frank exhange of views with President Clinton and his Administration Officials, Congressional leaders and leading American businessmen. PM's visit opened fresh possibilities for achieving greater understanding for India's position on issues of national interest. Trade and economic cooperation between India and the US is expected to receive further fillip as a result of the visit. Two MOUs were signed during PM's visit, one on Cooperative Measures to Increase Awareness and Support for Efforts to Combat Production, Distribution and Use of Illegal Drugs; and another on Planning, Conservation and Management of Natural and Cultural Heritage Sites.

(b) The US Government has noted that the most recent user trials of the Prithvi missile "were part of a series of tests that have been going on for several months". US Government policy, however, is against the deployment, testing or acquisition of ballistic missile capability in South Asia. The US position is that the acquisition of ballistic missile delivery system by India or Pakistan would be destablizing and thereby undermine the security of both. The US has requested both Governments not to deploy ballistic missiles in the course of bilateral contacts.

(c) The defeat of Congressman Dan Burton's anti-India Amendment to the Appropriation Bill signifies increased appreciation of India's position on the issue of human rights.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The potential of the Indian market and India's economic reforms have led the Clinton Administration and the US corporate world to express optimism and take concrete steps to take advantage of the new avenues to intensify and broaden bilateral cooperation, particularly in the area of trade and investment.

(f) The US Government is continuing negotiations with Pakistan on its proposal to transfer F-16 aircraft and other military equipment in return for a verifiable cap on Pakistan's production of fissile material.

भारतीय दूतावासों पर व्यय की गई धनराशि

7693. श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ मीम अफजल: क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) 1991-92, 1992-93 और 1993-94 के वर्षों के दौरान ब्रिटेन, चीन, अमरीका, फ्रांस, बंगलादेश, पाकिस्तान और सऊदी अरब में भारतीय दूतावासों पर कितनी धनराशि खर्च की गई है;

(ख) इस अवधि के दौरान कितनी नयी कारें खरीदी